

**REMARKS**

In an Office Action dated March 07, 2006 the Examiner subjected all pending claims 1-17, 33-36, and 41-42 to a Restriction Requirement. More specifically, the Examiner is requiring a Restriction to Group I, claims 1-10, 33-36, and 41-42, drawn to an earplug; and Group II, claims 11-17, drawn to a pair of earplugs.

In reply, Applicant herein elects Group I, claims 1-10, 33-36, and 41-42, without traverse, for prosecution on the merits in the above-identified application. Claims 11-17 are herein correspondingly cancelled. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the non-elected claims in a divisional application(s) without prejudice in respect of the present election, cancellation, or otherwise.

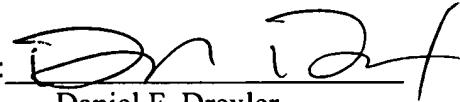
It is believed that the foregoing is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorneys at the below listed telephone number concerning this response or otherwise regarding the present application.

If there are any charges with respect to this restriction requirement, or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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